

Boulder County 1B: Mental and Behavioral Health Tax

Requests for Applications

**Please Read This Entire Document Before
Starting Your Application**



Submittal Due: 4:00 p.m. on August 27, 2026

For more information, contact Marnie Huffman-Green at mhuffmangreen@bouldercounty.gov and Kelly Veit at kveit@bouldercounty.gov

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Application Information

Boulder County Community Services Department is seeking proposals from qualified agencies for the 1B Mental and Behavioral Health Tax competitive grants.

- Boulder County uses the Foundant online application system:
[Click here to access the Boulder County 1B Mental and Behavioral Health Tax](#)
- Requests for applications must meet all the criteria outlined in this document.
- Applications must be completed in their entirety no later than **4:00 p.m. on August 27, 2026.** *Late and/or incomplete applications will not be considered.*
- Boulder County will host two Information and Q&A sessions.
 - **1st Information and Q&A session:** 11 a.m. on July 22, 2026. To register and submit questions prior to the meeting, use this link [July 22 Info and Q&A session.](#) The link will close at 2:00 p.m. on July 21, 2026.
 - **2nd Information and Q&A session:** 2:00 p.m. on July 28, 2026. To register and submit questions prior to the meeting, use this link [July 28 Info and Q&A session.](#) The link will close at 2:00 p.m. on July 27, 2026.
- We value inclusion and access for all participants and are committed to providing support to all applicants for completion of the Mental and Behavioral Health Tax application. Please contact Marnie Huffman-Green at mhuffmangreen@bouldercounty.gov and Kelly Veit at kveit@bouldercounty.gov if you experience any issues with the online application.
- If you have a disability and require an accommodation, please see [ADA and EEO Notices - Boulder County.](#)

Funding decisions cannot be appealed. To request documentation related to your application, submit a request through Boulder County's Colorado [Open Records Act \(CORA\) portal.](#)

Applications submitted in response to this RFA, as well any resulting contracts, are subject to the provisions of the Colorado Public (Open) Records Act, 24-72-201 to -206 C.R.S., as amended.

About Boulder County 1B Mental and Behavioral Health Tax

In November 2025, voters approved Boulder County's first Mental and Behavioral Health Tax ([Resolution No. 2025-038](#)). This three-year sales and use tax, ending on December 31, 2028, will address the unmet needs of youth, adults, families, unhoused individuals, and older adults in Boulder County with or at risk of mental health and substance use disorders.

Boulder County will leverage these tax revenues with Medicaid funds and other funds when possible and to provide services through community-based organizations, health care providers, and governmental entities. Services include:

- Mental health crisis services
- Suicide prevention and intervention
- Mental health and substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery
- Treatment services for unhoused individuals

These investments aim to strengthen the county's behavioral health system, reduce barriers to care, and ensure that residents receive timely, coordinated, and effective support.

Tax revenues will support services provided by Boulder County, organizations and health care providers that provide licensed clinicians, and community-based organizations that serve under-served populations in Boulder County, including unhoused and formerly unhoused individuals, non-English speaking community members, and members of the LGBTQ community.

Boulder County will use these tax revenues to provide additional funding for mental health and substance use services, and not to supplant existing sources of funding.

Applicant Eligibility

To be eligible, applicants must meet the following conditions:

1. All applicants must be a community-based organization, health care providers, or governmental entity.
2. Organizations requesting \$100,000 or more must be one of the following entities:
 - 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(19) non-profit in good standing with the Colorado Secretary of State.
 - Government entity
 - Health care providers that provide clinicians licensed in the state of Colorado that deliver the services listed in the Use of Funds section of this RFA which are in alignment with paragraph 15 of Resolution No. 2025-038, available at: [Resolution No. 2025-038,](#)
[Mental and Behavioral Health Tax Proposal Resolution](#)
3. Applicant must provide services to Boulder County residents.
4. Applicant, its officers, and employees must not be currently debarred or suspended from doing business with the Federal Government, State of Colorado, or any local government.
5. Applicant must not have unresolved current or past contract non-compliance, non-performance, suspension, termination, or other adverse audit findings with one or more funders in the last five (5) years.
6. Applicants must have a record of sound business integrity and if applicant has a prior history of contracting with Boulder County, applicant must have a history of being responsive to past contractual obligations.
7. Applicants seeking funds more than \$100,000 must prove financial capacity to execute the work proposed. Each organization applying for more than \$100,000 will be evaluated based on financial capacity.

Use of Funds

The Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has approved three competitive grant programs. All services funded through this RFA must be delivered in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner to ensure equitable access and effectiveness for all community members.

1. Equitable Access Grants: Treatment Services

Pool Funding Available: \$2,000,000

Treatment services for mental health and behavioral health including substance use disorders.

2. Peer Services – Community Providers: Peer Recovery Supports

Pool Funding Available: \$1,000,000

These services provided by peers include case management, sober-living, intensive outpatient services, peer services and other step-down services that support county residents in recovery from substance use and mental health disorders.

3. Community Prevention Services and Training: Prevention Services

Pool Funding Available: - \$1,100,000

Prevention services will fund schools, non-profit organizations, and other groups to support youth and others who have been impacted by adverse experiences, who are experiencing risk factors, or at risk of developing a mental illness or substance use disorder, or at risk of suicide.

Agencies may apply to multiple grant programs; however, due to limited funds, it is recommended that they apply to the program that best aligns with their primary focus. If submitting more than one application, each must be submitted separately.

Approved Use of Funds

Personnel – Personnel costs must directly support program Activities as described in the Scope of Work. For each position, provide the job title, a brief description of duties, gross salary, fringe benefits, and FTE percentage – total cost for each individual will be computed by the budget worksheet.

Client Costs – Expenses directly related to delivering program Activities in the Scope of Work to clients or participants. Examples include client related materials, technology support, and costs to host client-focused events.

Operating/Equipment – Expenses necessary to carry out the program Activities outlined in the Scope of Work – not general to the organization. Examples include travel, phone, office supplies, and equipment essential for service delivery.

Subcontractors – Expenses for third-party services that support program Activities defined in the Scope of Work. Examples include evaluation services, specialized training, or other contracted professional service.

Indirect up to 10% - Indirect expenses associated with supporting general organization operations. All expenses must be classified as either direct (program) or indirect (organizational) and not both.

Prohibited Use of Funds

Funds may not be used for general operating budget expenses.

Duplication of Services Prohibited

- You must disclose on the application if you have received or are applying to any other Boulder County grant programs — including but not limited to the Community Partnership Grant, Opioid Settlement, Human Services Fund, and the Intellectual and Developmental Disability Mill Levy. **Please note that duplication of services will not be funded.** Keep this in mind for any current grants or any grants you plan

to apply for.

- Duplication of Services are prohibited regardless of what the source of funding is. Duplication of services means receiving funding from more than one source for the same purpose within the same time period, resulting in total assistance that exceeds the documented need.

Review Process and Evaluation Criteria

Using the Evaluation Criteria, each application is reviewed by at least two reviewers. Their averaged scores guide the review team's discussions and funding recommendations, which take into account the applicant pool, BOCC priorities, and available funds. Community Services Department staff present these recommendations to the BOCC, which makes all final funding decisions.

The review team can consist of community members with lived experience, subject matter experts, and Boulder County employees who are part of the community they serve.

Funding is not guaranteed, and the County may award partial funding based on available funds, Commissioner priorities, and the applicant's evaluation score.

The Commissioners may wholly fund, partially fund, reject or otherwise not fund any and all Requests for Applications; to waive any informalities or irregularities therein; and to fund RFAs that, in the opinion of the Commissioners, are in the best interests of the County of Boulder, State of Colorado, pursuant to the intent of the County Ballot.

Evaluation Criteria

Boulder County will evaluate applications based on the following criteria. Boulder County reserves the right to award funds based on highest priority domains, evolving needs, and other considerations:

- **Organizational Capacity**

The agency demonstrates a clear and aligned mission and strategic direction, a strong history and capacity to serve the target population, and an ability to meaningfully incorporate and respond to the lived experiences of the community.

- **Racial Equity**

The agency demonstrates a strong and intentional commitment to addressing racial disparities in mental and behavioral health services.

- **Community Need**

The agency provides services that align with the ballot language ([Resolution No. 2025-038](#) and as described in the Use of Funds section above), clearly explains how these services address an unmet mental and behavioral health need, and demonstrates evidence it will produce meaningful and sustainable community impact.

- **Target Population**

The agency serves underserved populations, and the proposed services are specifically designed to address their unmet mental and behavioral health needs.

- **Impact (Scope of Work)**

The agency clearly demonstrates how the proposed Activity and inputs logically lead to the identified outcome area. Agency also commits to measure progress towards the required Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

- **Financial Capacity & Budget**

The agency presents a budget that is reasonable for the proposed scope/Activity and demonstrates sound financial management practices and the capacity to responsibly manage grant funds.

Application Questions

General Agency Information

- Organization Name
- Contact Information
- Agency type:
 - Non-governmental nonprofit 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(19)
 - Government Entity
 - Healthcare provider
- Indicate the geographic areas where your agency provides services.
- Identify which grant area you are applying for:
 - Equitable Access Grant: Treatment Services
 - Peer Services – Community Providers: Peer Recovery Supports
 - Community Prevention Services and Training: Prevention Services
- Amount of funding requested
 - Organizations requesting \$100,000 or more must be one of the following entities:
 - 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(19) non-profit in good standing with the Colorado Secretary of State.
 - Government entity
 - Health care providers that provide clinicians licensed in the state of Colorado that deliver the services listed in the Use of Funds section of this RFA which are in alignment with paragraph 15 of Resolution No. 2025-038, available at: [Resolution No. 2025-038](#)
[Mental and Behavioral Health Tax Proposal Resolution](#)
- If the program you're applying for receives other Boulder County grants, identify the funding source and describe how this funding source will not supplant or be duplicative.

Organizational Capacity

1. Describe your agency's mission, goals, who you serve, and how long you have served the community.
2. Describe how your agency's staffing structure, leadership, and operational systems support effective program delivery.
3. Describe how your agency is ensuring it's responding to the lived experience of the population you are serving.

Racial Equity

4. Describe how your agency identifies racial inequities affecting underserved communities and how you work to address those inequities.
5. Describe how your agency partners with underserved communities to co-design your services.
6. Describe how your agency builds trust with underserved communities and addresses structural barriers that may prevent access to services.
7. Describe how your services reflect the cultural and linguistic needs of underserved communities.
8. Describe how your agency uses data to refine program practices and support better outcomes.

The County advises grant recipients that their policies and programs must comply with Colorado and federal anti-discrimination laws as currently interpreted by the courts. Applicants may wish to have their counsel review their application materials before submission to ensure compliance.

Community Impact

9. Provide a brief overview of your proposed program, including the key services offered and expected benefits for participants.
10. Provide any relevant information that reflects the strength or evidence your program will impact on the identified need.
11. Describe the key unmet mental and behavioral needs your proposed service will

address and explain how the service aligns with the relevant service category.

12. Describe how your agency determined that this service is a priority need (i.e. community input, needs assessments, or local data).
13. Describe what systems, policies, or community conditions contribute to the behavioral health need you are addressing. Explain how your proposed project will reduce or eliminate these underlying barriers and create sustainable change.

Target Population

14. Describe the specific target population addressed by your agency's services. If your agency has identified any historically underserved communities, list and describe.
15. Describe how your agency identifies and engages the target population, with attention to reaching groups with unmet mental and behavioral health needs.
16. Provide available demographic information for the population your agency currently serves and explain how this aligns with the population targeted in this proposal.
17. Describe any barriers to access the target population may experience and how your agency will work to reduce or eliminate these barriers.
18. Describe how your proposed services are designed to meet the specific mental and behavioral health needs of the target population.

Impact - Scope of Work

Complete the Logic Model by identifying each required component, beginning with the Activity for which you are requesting funds. Each Activity must clearly link to the corresponding Outputs, both Outcome Areas, and the required Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

All awarded applicants must report on both of the following Outcome Areas:

- A. Increasing Access to Services for Underserved Communities** – shared KPIs for all service/grant areas.
- B. Improving Outcomes for Underserved Communities** – distinct KPIs for each service/grant area.

19. Activity – What your agency will do

Describe the core activity you are proposing to implement. Ensure the activity addresses the identified community need and aligns with the ballot language.

20. Outputs – What your agency will produce or deliver

List the direct, countable results of the activity described above. Include the number of new and unduplicated clients who will be served by the Activity.

21. Outcomes & KPIs– Expected Changes of Benefits

All awarded applicants are required to report on two Outcome Areas and associated KPIs.

A. Increasing Access to Services for Underserved Communities

All applicants must report on this Outcome Area. Select all KPIs that apply to your proposed Activity.

- Change in wait time (in days) to enrollment compared to traditional wait times
- Increases in clients served as a result of new funding
- Average days from enrollment to program entry
- Increases in clients receiving a service in their preferred speaking language
- Increase in staff hired with tax dollars who are bilingual
- Increase in clients provided a sliding scale self-payment fee

B. Improving Outcomes for Underserved Communities

Note: The full KPI list appears below; however, applicants will only see KPIs relevant to the grant area selected in the General Agency Information section.

*Applicant must report on all KPIs listed below. In addition, Applicant is required to provide **one additional** indicator that demonstrates the effectiveness of your Activity. Boulder County may require Awarded Agencies to report on additional KPIs*

which will be discussed during the contracting phase.

Grant/Service Category: Equitable Access Grant: Treatment Services

- Clients connected to wrap-around services by type.
- Program enrollees who successfully complete the program (including by race, ethnicity, and other critical sub-populations).
- Reasons for unsuccessful discharges (against medical advice, referred out, unsupported relapse, etc.).
- Applicant must provide one indicator that demonstrates the effectiveness of Activity.

Grant/Service Category: Peer Services – Community Providers: Peer Recovery Supports

- Added peer support specialists.
- Clients connected to wrap-around services by type.
- Applicant must provide one indicator that demonstrates the effectiveness of Activity.

Grant/Service Category: Community Prevention Services and Training: Prevention Services

- Improved gains (e.g., knowledge, self-efficacy, beliefs, skills) that reflect the services provided.
- Applicant must provide one indicator that demonstrates the effectiveness of Activity.

22. Measurement Tool

Identify the tool(s) or method(s) you will use to collect data for each KPI.

Financial Capacity & Budget

23. Describe how your agency ensures sound financial management practices and demonstrates its capacity to responsibly manage grant funds, including internal controls, fiscal oversight, and experience managing similar awards.
24. Please upload your most recent audit, balance sheet, and profit & loss statement in the Required Documents section. Explain any budget shortfalls that appear. If applicable, describe any budget reserves and policies governing them. If not applicable, enter N/A.
25. Provide an annual budget for the activities using the Budget Template provided. Only expenses that directly support the delivery of the Activity are allowed, and only those that align with the approved line-item budget will be eligible for funding; any unapproved or out-of-scope expenses may not be funded.

Note: Any funds awarded in 2026 will be prorated based on the annual budget submitted.

Required Documents

- Upload your 2026 or most recent audit. If your agency isn't required to perform an audit, upload a document stating why.
- Upload your balance sheet.
- Upload your profit & loss statement.
- Upload W9 signed within the last 12 months.
- Upload proof of organization status.
 - Non-Profit Organization: Copy of your 501(c)(3) and/or 501(c)(19) determination letter from the IRS as proof of your organization's tax-exempt status.
 - Government Entity: Upload a memo stating you are a government entity.
 - Health Care Provider: Copy of your currently active license from the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) demonstrating ability to delivery services listed in the Use of Funds section of this RFA which are in alignment with paragraph 15 of Resolution No. 2025-038, available at: [Resolution No. 2025-038 Mental_and_Behavioral_Health_Tax_Proposal_Resolution](#). Failure to upload a current active license may result in ineligibility.

Post Award Requirements

Awarded agencies will be required to execute a Funding Agreement effective immediately effective for the fiscal year and eligible for renewal through December 2028. Funds will be distributed annually (January through December) upon the successful completion of a Performance Review.

Meetings and Communications

1. Boulder County and awarded agency may meet quarterly to evaluate Agreement performance and program effectiveness. These meetings may include:
 - a) Recommendations for modifications in the scope of services for this Agreement.
 - b) Identification of technical assistance needed to support the Recipient's performance.
2. A fiscal review may be conducted during the Agreement term.

Budget and Payments

Boulder County will issue four (4) quarterly installment payments to awarded agencies on approved expenses as outlined in the approved program budget. The awarded agency will be required to submit quarterly Expenditure Reports documenting how funds were spent. The County will provide the Expenditure Report template, and reports will be due on the 20th day following the end of each quarter: April 20, July 20, October 20, and January 20.

Reporting

Awarded agencies must submit four (4) quarterly reports and one (1) end-of-year report. A report template and/or link to a reporting system will be provided. At a minimum, each report will include the following:

- **Reach** (e.g., number of clients, impressions, etc.),
- **Dose** (e.g., number of activities, treatment hours, etc.), and

- **Demographics** (e.g., race, ethnicity, geographic region, etc.) of their clients or participants.
- The percentage of clients who **received a service in their preferred speaking language**.
- Progress towards all Key Performance Indicators outlined in the ***Impact - Scope of Work*** section of the RFA – including both required indicators and any additional indicators provided by the awarded agency.

Additionally, there will be a limited qualitative side to the reports. We will be requesting success stories and system barriers.

Timeliness and Completeness

The awarded agency must submit fully completed quarterly and annual reports by the required due dates. All reports must be submitted using the designated format; alternate formats will not be accepted. Failure to comply with reporting requirements, or failure to communicate effectively with the County regarding any delays or inconsistencies, constitutes a breach of the Funding Agreement and may result in suspension or termination of the Agreement, as well as suspension of funding.

Foundant How-To Guide

1. *How do I create a new account in Foundant?*

- a) Log in to Foundant.
- b) Select “Create a New Account.”
- c) Complete the registration questions.

2. *How do I reset my password?*

- a) From the Foundant homepage, select “Forgot your Password?”
- b) Enter your email address.
- c) Follow the instructions in the link sent to your email.

b. *How do I edit my account in Foundant?*

- a) From your dashboard, select the person icon in the top right corner.
- b) Select “Edit My Profile” from the drop-down menu.
- c) Update your name, pronouns, email, phone number, address, password, and notification settings.

c. *How do I find the grant application?*

- a) From your dashboard, select the “APPLY” tab at the top of the page.
- b) All open grants will appear.
- c) Scroll down to find the “Boulder County 1B Mental and Behavioral Health Tax Grant.”

d. *How do I start a new application?*

Select the “Apply” button in the bottom right corner of the grant you want to begin.

e. *Can I save my application and finish later?*

Yes. Select the “Save” button at the bottom of the application. The draft will appear on your Dashboard under “Action Needed” until submitted or the due date passes.

f. *Why can't I see all the questions?*

The application is designed to show one section at a time. The full question list is included in this guide to help you prepare.

g. How do I make a copy of an application?

- a) Return to the application in the “APPLY” dashboard.
- b) Select “Apply.”
- c) Select “Copy Previous Answers” in the top right corner.
- d) Choose the previous application you want to copy from.
- e) Click “OK” in the confirmation box.
- f) Your answers will populate in the new application and may be edited as needed.

h. Why won't Foundant let me submit my application?

- a) Ensure all text boxes are within the character limits.
- b) Ensure all required questions (marked with an asterisk *) are answered.
- c) If issues persist, email cokiyama@bouldercounty.gov for troubleshooting.